

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Ayana Elizabeth Johnson and Jennifer Jacquet: Will the ocean ever run out of fish? | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/ayana_elizabeth_johnson_and_jennifer_jacquet_will_the_ocean_ever_run_out_of_fish

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

This material is a commentary and does not contain any copyrighted material of the reference source. We strongly recommend accessing/buying the reference source at the same time.

Session 1: Word List

decimate

v. to destroy a significant portion of something or reduce by ten percent; to cause extensive destruction or severe damage; to drastically reduce in size or number

synonym : devastate, destroy, annihilate

(1) **decimate** population, (2) **decimate** economy

The hurricane **decimated** the small town, leaving behind destruction and devastation.

goliath

n. a biblical figure and legendary giant warrior whom the young shepherd David defeated; a symbol of great strength or size

synonym : giant, colossus, titan

(1) automotive **goliath**, (2) **goliath** bird-eating spider

The young entrepreneur took down the **goliath** corporation with her innovative idea.

tuna

n. a large fish of the mackerel family, found in warm seas; commonly used for commercial and sport fishing and as a food source for humans and other animals

(1) **tuna** steak, (2) canned **tuna**

I made a **tuna** sandwich for lunch today.

plummet

v. to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply

synonym: drop, plunge, fall

(1) **plummeting** sales, (2) **plummet** against other major currencies

The stock prices have **plummeted** in the last hour, causing concern for investors.

verge

n. the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border

synonym: brink, edge, margin

(1) **verge** of bankruptcy, (2) on the **verge** of tears

He stood on the **verge** of a major discovery.

overfishing

n. the removal of too many fish from a body of water, causing a decline in population levels and harm to the ecosystem

synonym: overharvesting, over-exploitation, depletion

(1) **overfishing** crisis, (2) **overfishing** ban

The ocean's ecosystem is being threatened by **overfishing**, causing many species to become endangered.

dwindle

v. to gradually decrease in size, amount, or strength; to become smaller

synonym: shrink, decrease, fade

(1) **dwindle** in importance, (2) **dwindle** to almost nothing

The crowds at the festival **dwindled** as the night went on.

seabird

n. a bird species that spends much of its life on or near the sea, often feeding on fish and other marine animals

synonym: seafowl, oceanic bird

(1) **seabird** migration, (2) **seabird** nesting

The fishermen were alarmed to see a flock of **seabirds** circling above the water.

dolphin

n. a marine mammal that typically has a beaklike snout, a streamlined body, and flippers and that feeds on fish and squid

synonym : porpoise, cetacean, marine mammal

(1) **dolphin** show, (2) **dolphin-watching** tour

The large group of **dolphins** swam gracefully in the ocean, jumping out of the water now and then.

onboard

v. to become or make part of a team, group, or system; to install, activate, or begin using a piece of equipment or software; (adjective) included or integrated into a particular system, machine, or device

synonym : embark, aboard, on-load

(1) **onboard** the new employees, (2) **onboard** computer

The passengers were instructed to **onboard** the aircraft as quickly as possible so that the flight could depart on time.

rebrand

v. to change the branding or image of a product, service, or organization to attract a new target market or improve recognition and profitability

synonym : reintroduce, relaunch, reintegrate

(1) **rebrand** product, (2) **rebrand** company

The clothing brand decided to **rebrand** its image to attract a younger audience.

spawn

v. to lay eggs or to produce offspring; to cause something to develop

synonym : beget, breed, generate

(1) **spawn** in spring, (2) **spawn** a new concept

The salmon swims upstream to **spawn** in the place they were released.

overfish

v. to deplete fish populations beyond sustainable levels through excessive or unregulated fishing practices, leading to environmental and economic consequences

synonym : deplete, exhaust, drain

(1) **overfish** the coral reefs, (2) **overfish** certain areas

Scientists warn that many species could face extinction if we continue to **overfish** our oceans.

disrupt

v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

synonym : interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep
I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

seafloor

n. the bottom of the ocean

synonym : ocean floor, benthic zone, abyssal plain

(1) **seafloor** exploration, (2) **seafloor** mapping

The oceanographer studied the **seafloor** topography to understand how it had changed over time.

bycatch

n. the unintentional capture of non-target species in fishing or harvesting operations, often resulting in their injury or death

synonym : byproduct, incidental catch

(1) reduce **bycatch**, (2) sustainable **bycatch**

The fishermen were careful to avoid **bycatch** while fishing for tuna in the ocean.

mangrove

n. a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it

(1) **mangrove** forest, (2) **mangrove** swamp

The **mangrove** trees are known for their ability to survive in saltwater and sandy soil.

bulldoze

v. to level or clear an area of land using a bulldozer (= a large, heavy vehicle with a blade on the front); to use force or the threat of force to make them do something or to get them to move out of the way

synonym : level, clear, demolish

(1) **bulldoze** a mound, (2) **bulldoze** a person into buying
They **bulldozed** the old building to make way for a new one.

deprive

v. to take away something from someone

synonym: deny, take away, divest

(1) **deprive** others of profit, (2) **deprive** him of his status
He was **deprived** of his freedom when sentenced to life in prison.

trawl

v. to fish by dragging a net, often along the bottom of the ocean or river; to search or examine something thoroughly, often looking for a specific item or information

synonym: fish, dredge, drag

(1) **trawl** the Internet for free music, (2) **trawl** for fish
The fisherman used a net to **trawl** the bottom of the river for his catch.

boycott

v. to refuse to buy, use, or patronize a particular product or service as a form of protest or to bring about change; (noun) a deliberate and organized refusal to buy or use a product, service, or organization as a form of protest or to apply pressure for change

synonym: protest, abstain, avoid

(1) **boycott** campaign, (2) **boycott** the discussion
Many people have decided to **boycott** the company due to their unethical practices.

wasteful

adj. characterized by excessive or unnecessary use or consumption; using resources or materials inefficiently or inappropriately, resulting in unnecessary waste or expense

synonym: uneconomical, extravagant, profligate

(1) **wasteful** practices, (2) **wasteful** habits
Buying new clothes every week is a **wasteful** use of money and resources.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

deplete

v. to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials

synonym: exhaust, consume, use up

(1) **deplete** customer confidence, (2) **deplete** glycogen stores

If we continue to **deplete** the Earth's natural resources, we will cause severe damage to the environment.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ma____ve forest *n.* a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it
2. bu____ze a person into buying *v.* to level or clear an area of land using a bulldozer (= a large, heavy vehicle with a blade on the front); to use force or the threat of force to make them do something or to get them to move out of the way
3. on the ve__e of tears *n.* the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border
4. tr__l the Internet for free music *v.* to fish by dragging a net, often along the bottom of the ocean or river; to search or examine something thoroughly, often looking for a specific item or information
5. di____t a well-ordered condition *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
6. go____h bird-eating spider *n.* a biblical figure and legendary giant warrior whom the young shepherd David defeated; a symbol of great strength or size

ANSWERS: 1. mangrove, 2. bulldoze, 3. verge, 4. trawl, 5. disrupt, 6. goliath

7. bo____t the discussion v. to refuse to buy, use, or patronize a particular product or service as a form of protest or to bring about change; (noun) a deliberate and organized refusal to buy or use a product, service, or organization as a form of protest or to apply pressure for change
8. bu____ze a mound v. to level or clear an area of land using a bulldozer (= a large, heavy vehicle with a blade on the front); to use force or the threat of force to make them do something or to get them to move out of the way
9. pl____ting sales v. to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
10. sp__n a new concept v. to lay eggs or to produce offspring; to cause something to develop
11. de____te economy v. to destroy a significant portion of something or reduce by ten percent; to cause extensive destruction or severe damage; to drastically reduce in size or number
12. ove_____ng ban n. the removal of too many fish from a body of water, causing a decline in population levels and harm to the ecosystem
13. t__a steak n. a large fish of the mackerel family, found in warm seas; commonly used for commercial and sport fishing and as a food source for humans and other animals

ANSWERS: 7. boycott, 8. bulldoze, 9. plummet, 10. spawn, 11. decimate, 12. overfishing, 13. tuna

14. dw_____e in importance *v.* to gradually decrease in size, amount, or strength; to become smaller
15. de_____e others of profit *v.* to take away something from someone
16. on_____d computer *v.* to become or make part of a team, group, or system; to install, activate, or begin using a piece of equipment or software; (adjective) included or integrated into a particular system, machine, or device
17. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
18. de_____e customer confidence *v.* to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials
19. canned t__a *n.* a large fish of the mackerel family, found in warm seas; commonly used for commercial and sport fishing and as a food source for humans and other animals
20. do_____n-watching tour *n.* a marine mammal that typically has a beaklike snout, a streamlined body, and flippers and that feeds on fish and squid
21. wa_____ul practices *adj.* characterized by excessive or unnecessary use or consumption; using resources or materials inefficiently or inappropriately, resulting in unnecessary waste or expense
22. tr__l for fish *v.* to fish by dragging a net, often along the bottom of the ocean or river; to search or examine something thoroughly, often looking for a specific item or information

ANSWERS: 14. dwindle, 15. deprive, 16. onboard, 17. industrious, 18. deplete, 19. tuna, 20. dolphin, 21. wasteful, 22. trawl

23. pl____t against other major currencies
v. to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
24. de____te population
v. to destroy a significant portion of something or reduce by ten percent; to cause extensive destruction or severe damage; to drastically reduce in size or number
25. se____d nesting
n. a bird species that spends much of its life on or near the sea, often feeding on fish and other marine animals
26. automotive go____h
n. a biblical figure and legendary giant warrior whom the young shepherd David defeated; a symbol of great strength or size
27. sustainable by____h
n. the unintentional capture of non-target species in fishing or harvesting operations, often resulting in their injury or death
28. de____e him of his status
v. to take away something from someone
29. do____n show
n. a marine mammal that typically has a beaklike snout, a streamlined body, and flippers and that feeds on fish and squid
30. ove____ng crisis
n. the removal of too many fish from a body of water, causing a decline in population levels and harm to the ecosystem
31. ve__e of bankruptcy
n. the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border

ANSWERS: 23. plummet, 24. decimate, 25. seabird, 26. goliath, 27. bycatch, 28. deprive, 29. dolphin, 30. overfishing, 31. verge

32. on____d the new employees *v.* to become or make part of a team, group, or system; to install, activate, or begin using a piece of equipment or software; (adjective) included or integrated into a particular system, machine, or device
33. ind____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
34. reduce by____h *n.* the unintentional capture of non-target species in fishing or harvesting operations, often resulting in their injury or death
35. sp__n in spring *v.* to lay eggs or to produce offspring; to cause something to develop
36. wa____ul habits *adj.* characterized by excessive or unnecessary use or consumption; using resources or materials inefficiently or inappropriately, resulting in unnecessary waste or expense
37. di____t sleep *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
38. se____d migration *n.* a bird species that spends much of its life on or near the sea, often feeding on fish and other marine animals
39. re____d company *v.* to change the branding or image of a product, service, or organization to attract a new target market or improve recognition and profitability

ANSWERS: 32. onboard, 33. industrious, 34. bycatch, 35. spawn, 36. wasteful, 37. disrupt, 38. seabird, 39. rebrand

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 40. dw_____e to almost nothing | v. | to gradually decrease in size, amount, or strength; to become smaller |
| 41. ov_____sh certain areas | v. | to deplete fish populations beyond sustainable levels through excessive or unregulated fishing practices, leading to environmental and economic consequences |
| 42. se_____or mapping | n. | the bottom of the ocean |
| 43. se_____or exploration | n. | the bottom of the ocean |
| 44. ma_____ve swamp | n. | a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it |
| 45. ov_____sh the coral reefs | v. | to deplete fish populations beyond sustainable levels through excessive or unregulated fishing practices, leading to environmental and economic consequences |
| 46. de_____e glycogen stores | v. | to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials |
| 47. re_____d product | v. | to change the branding or image of a product, service, or organization to attract a new target market or improve recognition and profitability |
| 48. bo_____t campaign | v. | to refuse to buy, use, or patronize a particular product or service as a form of protest or to bring about change; (noun) a deliberate and organized refusal to buy or use a product, service, or organization as a form of protest or to apply pressure for change |

ANSWERS: 40. dwindle, 41. overfish, 42. seafloor, 43. seafloor, 44. mangrove, 45. overfish, 46. deplete, 47. rebrand, 48. boycott

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The passengers were instructed to _____ the aircraft as quickly as possible so that the flight could depart on time.
 - v. to become or make part of a team, group, or system; to install, activate, or begin using a piece of equipment or software; (adjective) included or integrated into a particular system, machine, or device
2. The young entrepreneur took down the _____ corporation with her innovative idea.
 - n. a biblical figure and legendary giant warrior whom the young shepherd David defeated; a symbol of great strength or size
3. The fishermen were alarmed to see a flock of _____ circling above the water.
 - n. a bird species that spends much of its life on or near the sea, often feeding on fish and other marine animals
4. The fisherman used a net to _____ the bottom of the river for his catch.
 - v. to fish by dragging a net, often along the bottom of the ocean or river; to search or examine something thoroughly, often looking for a specific item or information
5. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
 - adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
6. The crowds at the festival _____ as the night went on.
 - v. to gradually decrease in size, amount, or strength; to become smaller
7. If we continue to _____ the Earth's natural resources, we will cause severe damage to the environment.
 - v. to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials

ANSWERS: 1. onboard, 2. goliath, 3. seabirds, 4. trawl, 5. industrious, 6. dwindled, 7. deplete

8. They _____ the old building to make way for a new one.
- v. to level or clear an area of land using a bulldozer (= a large, heavy vehicle with a blade on the front); to use force or the threat of force to make them do something or to get them to move out of the way
9. The stock prices have _____ in the last hour, causing concern for investors.
- v. to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
10. The ocean's ecosystem is being threatened by _____ causing many species to become endangered.
- n. the removal of too many fish from a body of water, causing a decline in population levels and harm to the ecosystem
11. The _____ trees are known for their ability to survive in saltwater and sandy soil.
- n. a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it
12. Scientists warn that many species could face extinction if we continue to _____ our oceans.
- v. to deplete fish populations beyond sustainable levels through excessive or unregulated fishing practices, leading to environmental and economic consequences
13. Buying new clothes every week is a _____ use of money and resources.
- adj. characterized by excessive or unnecessary use or consumption; using resources or materials inefficiently or inappropriately, resulting in unnecessary waste or expense
14. I made a _____ sandwich for lunch today.
- n. a large fish of the mackerel family, found in warm seas; commonly used for commercial and sport fishing and as a food source for humans and other animals

ANSWERS: 8. bulldozed, 9. plummeted, 10. overfishing, 11. mangrove, 12. overfish, 13. wasteful, 14. tuna

15. The fishermen were careful to avoid _____ while fishing for tuna in the ocean.
- n.* the unintentional capture of non-target species in fishing or harvesting operations, often resulting in their injury or death
16. The oceanographer studied the _____ topography to understand how it had changed over time.
- n.* the bottom of the ocean
17. I'm so sorry to _____ you when you're pretty busy.
- v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
18. Many people have decided to _____ the company due to their unethical practices.
- v.* to refuse to buy, use, or patronize a particular product or service as a form of protest or to bring about change; (noun) a deliberate and organized refusal to buy or use a product, service, or organization as a form of protest or to apply pressure for change
19. The clothing brand decided to _____ its image to attract a younger audience.
- v.* to change the branding or image of a product, service, or organization to attract a new target market or improve recognition and profitability
20. He was _____ of his freedom when sentenced to life in prison.
- v.* to take away something from someone
21. The salmon swims upstream to _____ in the place they were released.
- v.* to lay eggs or to produce offspring; to cause something to develop
22. He stood on the _____ of a major discovery.
- n.* the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border

ANSWERS: 15. bycatch, 16. seafloor, 17. disrupt, 18. boycott, 19. rebrand, 20. deprived, 21. spawn, 22. verge

23. The large group of _____ swam gracefully in the ocean, jumping out of the water now and then.
- n.* a marine mammal that typically has a beaklike snout, a streamlined body, and flippers and that feeds on fish and squid
24. The hurricane _____ the small town, leaving behind destruction and devastation.
- v.* to destroy a significant portion of something or reduce by ten percent; to cause extensive destruction or severe damage; to drastically reduce in size or number

ANSWERS: 23. dolphins, 24. decimated